## Wapda XEN abducted in Bannu

By Our Correspondent

BANNU: Unidentified terrorists kidnapped an executive engineer of the Water and Power Development Authority (Wapda) from a road here, sources said on Wednesday.

The Wapda headquarters in Lahore confirmed the abduction of Arif Usman, executive engineer (XEN Civil) Lahore, by terrorists in Bannu.

According to a notification issued by General Manager (hydro) Planning Lahore, Naeem Qadir Mangi, on January 5, Arif Usman informed the office via WhatsApp that he was detained by armed men while returning to Lahore after evening prayers.

The abductors, who were aware of his status as a government/Wapda employee, have demanded a ransom of Rs 50 million for his release, official sources said.

Meanwhile, the body of a kidnapped policeman, who was martyred by terrorists during captivity, was recovered from the Sadakhel Road here on Wednesday.

The martyred constable, Naveed Akram, a resident of Amalkhel area of Domel, was abducted by terrorists from the football ground of his village. He had earlier received threats if he didn't quit his job in the police.

According to residents, community elders also held negotiations with the abductors for the safe release of the constable, but the talks failed.

Subsequently, he was killed, and his body was found on Sadakhel Road.

## Two shot dead in Peshawar

**PESHAWAR: Two people were shot dead by unidentified assailants near Jinnah Park here on Wednesday, the police said.**

**The incident took place in front of the Qila Balahisar, where unknown attackers opened fire, killing two men on the spot. After the incident, police reached the scene and shifted the bodies to the Lady Reading Hospital for medico-legal formalities.**

**An investigation has been launched to ascertain the identity of the deceased and motive behind the killing. — APP**

# Rs1tr tribal uplift package in the works

### Afridi says Roshan Qabail initiative to improve infrastructure, develop human resources, create jobs

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi on Wednesday said that his government was working on a Rs1 trillion Roshan Qabail development package for the merged tribal districts of the province.

He said this during a meeting called to finalise the framework of the Roshan Qabail development package, according to an official statement.

It added that the participants reviewed the proposed framework and priority sectors aimed at ensuring sustainable socio-economic development of tribal districts.

Officials told the meeting that under the proposed package, significant investments would be made in six thematic areas for the development of tribal districts.

They said the development package would be worth Rs1 trillion.

The chief minister said that under the package, the special focus would be placed on improving infrastructure, developing human resources, and creating employment opportunities so that the merged districts can be brought at par with other developed areas of the province.

He said that the establishment of Tribal Medical College, Institute of Modern Sciences, and Safe city projects be included in the package.

Mr Afridi also said that the establishment of district and tehsil headquarters hospitals should be made part of the package in areas where such facilities didn't exist.

He said that a modern sports complex should be established in each merged district and a sports ground at the tehsil level to provide healthy recreational opportunities for youth.

The chief minister issued instructions to include markets as well as internal and external entry routes of the merged districts in the Safe City Project along with shifting of markets, schools and health facilities to solar energy.

He said that a Rescue 1122 station, orphanages and shelter homes should be included in the development plan for every tehsil across the merged districts.

Mr Afridi emphasised the need for increasing the share of investment in the health and education sectors, stating that sustainable development is not possible without substantial improvement in these areas.

He also ordered enhancement of allocations for science, technology, information technology, irrigation, social welfare, sports and energy sectors.

Officials said that special investments would be made under the package to enhance institutional capacity, improve governance and ensure effective service delivery. They also said cross-sectoral reforms would be undertaken to achieve inclusive development with particular strengthening of the health and education sectors.

The officials said under the development package, 1,245 new primary schools would be established in the merged tribal districts, while 463 primary schools and 85 middle schools would be upgraded.

They also said 975 primary schools, 240 middle schools and 125 high schools would be rehabilitated.

The officials said the proposed package also included the recruitment of 11,500 teachers and the provision of various educational scholarships.

They said rehabilitation and functionalisation of health facilities were also planned along with the establishment of telemedicine centers in district headquarters hospitals.

The officials said the proposed development package also covered construction of road infrastructure, development of check dams and irrigation infrastructure, provision of clean drinking water, establishment of industrial infrastructure and solarisation of schools, health facilities, and markets in the merged tribal districts.

They also said various initiatives had been proposed in the sectors of agriculture and livestock, forestry, sports and youth affairs, while measures would be undertaken in the sectors of local government, relief science and technology.

# Peshawar burn centre records 66pc spike in cases last year

### Prof Tahmeed urges govt to initiate scheme for prevention of burn injuries

By Ashfaq Yusufzai

PESHAWAR: Amid 66 per cent upswing in admissions since its establishment in 2018, the public sector Burns and Plastic Surgery Centre has urged government to initiate a programme to prevent burn injuries, which usually surge in winter season and affect mostly children and women.

The sole dedicated centre for treatment of burn injuries has also received 114 patients from neighbouring Afghanistan where health services for such patients are almost non-existent.

Speaking about the last year's performance of the centre, its director Prof Tahmeedullah told this scribe that there was a record-breaking patients' inflow, warranting a strategic shift towards provincial-level burn prevention programme. As usually, the centre received more patients with burn injuries that could have been avoided through putting in place preventive measures, including awareness, he said.

"The 120-bed tertiary care facility managed unprecedented 44,877 patients and operated on 9,338 of them last year. Given the soaring patients' volume, we need to maintain our clinical excellence for which we require more specialists and resources," he said.

Prof Tahmeed said that the number of patients visiting OPD was recorded at 13,881 while 1,808 were hospitalised, showing an upward trend of 66 per cent. The need for expansion of services was felt desperately with every passing day to manage patients, requiring specialised trauma and reconstructive treatment, more effectively, he added.

He said that the number of plastic surgery performed at the centre was 3,104, followed by trauma's 2,831 and burns' 2,535. "In response to the rising casualty rates, BPSC is spearheading systemic reforms. Efforts are afoot to establish a 'provincial burn registry' to ensure proper record of patients on the basis of which policies and strategies can be devised leading to improved care," he said.

Prof Tahmeed said that a formal request in that regard had already been submitted to government to establish a registry and launch a comprehensive provincial burn prevention programme.

He said that an estimated 1.5 million people suffered from burn injuries countrywide annually with 10 per cent of them happened to be life-threatening, requiring hospitalisation.

He added that about 15 to 20 per cent victims got crippled and underwent multiple surgeries and prolonged rehabilitation.

"Of these, 70 per cent are in most productive age group of 15 to 40 years while 80 per cent belong to poor socioeconomic strata, mainly due to illiteracy, poverty and low level safety consciousness," said Prof Tahmeed. He added that most of those mishaps were preventable through awareness and putting in place a legal framework.

He said that the centre achieved the highest ratio of passing candidates in plastic surgery examinations in the region in addition to procurement of advanced technology, including a Near-Infrared ICG Camera for lymphedema and an 'electric surgical piezo drill' within a budgetary allocation of Rs898.091 million.

He said that BPSC also expanded its super-microvascular and lymphedema services, marking a major advancement in provincial healthcare capabilities.

Prof Tahmeed, who is also president Pakistan Association of Plastic Surgeons, said that the centre was receiving delegates of many countries who were showing immense interest regarding management of terrorism-hit patients.

"We get people with more burn injuries caused by leakage of gas and eruption of fire in factories that cause injuries to hundreds of people. Collaboration with other countries would benefit local patients requiring high specialised services," he said.

He said that the centre was closely working with health department to upgrade plastic surgery services at district level and ensure rapid management of patients locally to reduce burden on BPSC.

# Court suspends termination of reverend by bishop

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: A local court has temporarily suspended an order of the bishop of Peshawar about termination of a reverend of an old church here, who claimed due process was not followed before issuance of the same.

Civil Judge Ihtishamul Haq observed that perusal of the record revealed that tentatively an arguable case existed in favour of the plaintiff, Reverend Shehzad Murad, a vicar of All Saints Church, Peshawar, therefore interim injunction was granted to him to the extent of suspension of two impugned orders of Oct 28, 2025, and Dec 15, 2025, till Jan 10, next date of hearing.

The court directed its bailiff to visit the spot of the suit property and make complete report along with digital photographs on the date fixed.

The court also issued notices to defendants including Bishop of Peshawar Humphrey Sarfaraz Peter, vice-chairman of an inquiry committee of Diocese of Peshawar, Reverend Rafiq Javed, deputy superintendent of police and SHO of Khan Raziq Shaheed police station, in whose jurisdiction the said church is situated.

The court sought their response to the suit filed by the plaintiff, challenging his suspension as well as termination from the post of reverend.

The plaintiff sought directives of the court under Section 30 of Specific Relief Act for the bishop to withdraw the suspension letter of Oct 28 and his termination letter of Dec 15 and allow him to perform his duty at All Saints Church, Peshawar.

Advocate Niaz Wali Khan appeared for the plaintiff and said that after getting qualified and ordained for spiritual duties, the deacons getting additional spiritual qualification, got the status of 'reverend' and thereafter, being placed in churches per rules framed under the Constitution of Church of Pakistan.

He stated that Church of Pakistan consisted of eight 'diocesan councils'. He said that Church of Pakistan had a dominant status which controlled the synod, which thereafter had control upon 'diocesan councils of the country'.

He stated that a bishop was a head of a diocesan council, who was elected for a specified period through the votes cast by the members of the synod, executive committee and the members nominated of diocesan council, which made electoral college.

The counsel stated that his client after having qualified pre-requisites and was being educated for the purpose of getting the status of reverend, was entrusted administration of All Saints Church in Kohati, Peshawar.


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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OGDCL-SCM-LD-PT-COMM-SONO LASHARI-308606791-2026 | SALE OF LOW-PRESSURE GAS AT SONO LASHARI FIELD, TEHSIL TANDO JAM, DISTRICT MATTIARI, SINDH | ±0.3 - ±0.7 | 01 | (5 - 10) PSI | RS. 1447/- | SINGLE STAGE ONE ENVELOPE | 26.01.2026 AT 1130 HRS |
| OGDCL-SCM-LD-PT-COMM-LASHARI X-1-308600903-2026 | SALE OF LOW-PRESSURE GAS AT LASHARI X-1, DISTRICT - HYDERABAD, SINDH | +1.5 | 01 | (15-20) PSI | RS. 1481/- | SINGLE STAGE ONE ENVELOPE | 27.01.2026 AT 1130 HRS |

2. Tender documents are available online and bids are also required to be submitted online through e-procurement portal at **https://ogdcl.com/sap-ariba-tenders** or **https://discovery.ariba.com/profile/AN01562899621**.
3. All bids will be opened 30 minutes after the bids closing date & time.
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6. OGDC reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all the bids as per Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rule-33.

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**(Supply Chain Management)**
**Oil & Gas Development Company Limited**
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**Blue Area, Islamabad, Pakistan.**
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**REQUESTS FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**ESTABLISH/CONSTRUCT NEW PETROL PUMPS/RETAIL OUTLETS IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS OF BALOCHISTAN**

Pakistan State Oil Company Limited (PSO) is the largest oil marketing company of Pakistan with over 3,600 gas/fuel stations countrywide and have variety of product offerings to businesses and consumers.

Retail business is one of the core segments of Pakistan State Oil (PSO). As the largest Oil Marketing Company (OMC) in Pakistan, PSO continues to expand its nationwide retail network by offering dealership opportunities under its standard dealership framework.

In line with its strategic objective to enhance market reach and strengthen its footprint in underserved regions, PSO intends to develop new Retail Outlets in unserved districts of Balochistan.

Accordingly, PSO invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from professional, experienced, and financially sound individuals, proprietors, companies, and enterprises engaged in retail or allied businesses for the establishment of PSO Retail Outlets in the following districts:

- Awaran
- Sherani
- Kharan
- Chagai
- Washuk

Interested parties are encouraged to participate in this opportunity to partner with PSO in expanding energy access and retail infrastructure across Balochistan.

Expression of Interest (EOI) will be evaluated as per the following parameters;

1. Land shall be provided by the interested party (dealer/investor). Interested party should own a piece of land or have a possession of leased land in above mentioned districts with minimum 20 years of available lease and minimum land measurement of 100X100
2. Investment for development of the site shall be shared between the Dealer and PSO, as per mutually agreed terms and PSO policy.
3. Civil works (construction of forecourt, buildings, and allied facilities) shall be executed by the Dealer.
4. PSO shall provide the required equipment, according to the category as per PSO's policy:
   - Fuel dispensing units
   - Underground storage tanks
   - Branding, signage, and allied facilities

Interested dealers should submit complete details as specified in the EOI document. On the basis of EOIs, PSO shall contact the interested dealers directly and initiate subsequent process.

**Eligibility**

Interested parties must:

1. Be Pakistani nationals or registered business entities
2. Have ownership or legal possession of suitable land
3. Possess the financial capacity to undertake the investment
4. Agree to comply with PSO, OGRA, and Explosives Department regulations
5. Dealer should have a strong business acumen and financial sight. Dealer should be committed to invest time in safety, high standards of service and are result oriented. Dealer should possess high calibre of personal integrity.

**Important Notes**

- Submission of EOI does not constitute any commitment or award of dealership
- PSO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason
- Detailed terms and conditions shall be shared with shortlisted applicants

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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**SUBMISSION OF ONLINE APPLICATION:**

https://psondsahulat.psopk.com/pso/public/development_applications/create